

Message Text

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FOR HODDING CARTER FROM S/PRS

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TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)

SUBJECT:TRAVELING PRESS SUMMARY, AUGUST 24

NO. 12

WIRES

AP -- SCHWEID FROM PEKING

LEAD: "VANCE SAID TODAY HE HAS GAINED SOME GROUND TOWARD
NORMALIZING US-CHINESE RELATIONS, BUT CHINA'S CHIEF
NEGOTIATOR TENG DID NOT APPEAR TO SHARE THAT APPRAISAL."

OTHER POINTS:

--NO INDICATION FROM US OFFICIALS THAT PRC HAD EASED
INSISTENCE THAT US END TIES WITH TAIWAN.

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--VANCE ALSO RAISED ISSUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS, BUT US OFFICIALS
DECLINED TO GIVE DETAILS.

--OFFICIALS ATTENDING THE VANCE-TENG MEETING GAVE FOLLOWING
DETAILS: TENG GAVE SPIRITED LECTURE ON SELF-RELIANCE,
HIS RECOLLECTIONS OF EARLY DAYS OF COMMUNIST MOVEMENT IN
YENAN, AND HIS EXILE AT HANDS OF "GANG OF FOUR."

--VANCE SCHEDULE FOR FINAL DAY REMAINED OPEN; STILL NO AUDIENCE WITH PARTY CHAIRMAN HUA.

UPI -- ANDERSON FROM PEKING

LEAD: "VANCE WEDNESDAY HELD 'NITTY GRITTY' TALKS WITH CHINA'S NEWLY REHABILITATED VICE PREMIER TENG BUT FINAL AGREEMENT ON NORMAL RELATIONS WAS STILL HELD UP BECAUSE OF THE TAIWAN ISSUE."

OTHER POINTS:

--TALKS RAN AN HOUR OVERTIME AND WENT BETTER THAN EXPECTED, US SPOKESMAN SAID.

--DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SAID AGREEMENT ON NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WOULD NOT COME DURING VANCE VISIT.

--US OFFICIALS HOPED TENG MEETING WITH VANCE WOULD BE PRELUDE TO VANCE-HUA THURSDAY, AND SAID PRIVATELY SUCH A MEETING WOULD BE INDICATION OF SUCCESS OR FAILURE OF VANCE MISSION.

--NO TALKS SCHEDULED FOR TOMORROW, BUT US OFFICIALS KEEPING VANCE SCHEDULE OPEN IN CASE LAST-MINUTE MEETING ARRANGED WITH HUA.
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REUTERS -- MACKENZIE FROM PEKING

LEAD: "VANCE AND CHINESE DEP. PREMIER TENG BOTH TOASTED THE ROAD TO NORMALIZATION OF SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS TONIGHT AT A DINNER AT THE IMPERIAL SUMMER PALACE."

OTHER POINTS:

--US SPOKESMAN, HOWEVER, CONTINUED TO REFER TO VISIT AS "EXPLORATORY" AND INDICATED NO SUBSTANTIVE PROGRESS TOWARD NORMALIZATION.

--DINNER TALK DEALT WITH VANCE AND TENG PASTS AND BANTER OF NON-POLITICAL TYPE; MOOD WAS RELAXED AND JOVIAL.

--NO DEFINITE SCHEDULE SET FOR TOMORROW BUT IT IS KNOWN (SIC) THAT VANCE WILL MEET WITH HUA SOMETIME DURING THE DAY.

EVENING TELEVISION

NBC

CHANCELLOR: SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE'S MISSION TO CHINA CONTINUED TODAY AND THERE WERE INDICATIONS THAT THE DEGREE OF PROGRESS IN THESE TALKS WAS LIMITED. VANCE MET WITH VICE-PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING, THE NUMBER THREE MAN, AND SAID LATER THAT HIS CONVERSATIONS HAD BEEN USEFUL AND HELPFUL. BUT TENG'S EVALUATION WAS LESS OPTIMISTIC. HIS WORDS DID NOT INDICATE ANY PROGRESS AT ALL.

NOT ALL OF SECRETARY VANCE'S TRIP HAS BEEN SPENT AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE. -

JACK REYNOLDS - PEKING:
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FOR THE PAST TWO DAYS THE SECRETARY HAS HAD A FAIR AMOUNT OF TIME ON HIS HANDS - THE TALKS HAVE BEEN BRIEF. SO, THE CHINESE PROVIDED SOME SIGHTSEEING - A TOUR THROUGH THE HISTORICAL MUSEUM WHERE HE WAS SHOWN HISTORY AS SEEN THROUGH CHINESE EYES, WITH EMPHASIS ON CLASS STRUGGLE AND THE EXPLOITATION OF THE MASSES. WHAT SECRETARY VANCE WAS NOT SHOWN WAS THE PART OF THE MUSEUM THAT DEALS WITH RECENT HISTORY - WITH THE DOWNFALL OF THE "GANG OF FOUR." THAT SECTION IS PRESUMABLY BEING REVISED.

THE SECRETARY WAS TREATED TO A DISPLAY OF LION-DANCING AND GYMNASTICS. THIS PERFORMANCE PROVIDED ONE OF THE FEW REAL INSIGHTS, THUS FAR, ON WHAT'S GOING ON IN CHINA THESE DAYS. THERE WERE ALMOST NO POLITICAL OVERTONES IN THE PERFORMANCES, AND THERE WERE MORE TRADITIONAL COSTUMES WORN BY THE CAST - SOMETHING THAT SUPRISED THE CHINESE AUDIENCE AS WELL AS THE AMERICANS - ANOTHER CONCRETE SIGN THAT THE NEW CHINESE LEADERSHIP IS MOVING AWAY FROM SOME OF THE HARSH POLITICAL STRICTURES OF THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION. TENG'S APPEARANCE IS CERTAINLY THE MOST INTERESTING DEVELOPMENT ON THE TRIP THUS FAR. NOW IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER THE AMERICANS AND THE CHINESE CAN AGREE ON ANY CONCRETE STEPS, OR EVEN A TENTATIVE TIMETABLE FOR NORMALIZATION. - --

ABC

SMITH: SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE, REPRESENTING THE FIRST INITIATIVE OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION TO CHINA, HAS NOW SPENT THREE FULL DAYS IN PEKING. MUCH OF THAT TIME HAS BEEN SPENT LAYING OUT FOR THE CHINESE THE AMERICAN VIEW OF THE WORLD. SOME OF THE TIME, WHILE THE CHINESE DIGESTED
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WHAT MR. VANCE HAD TO SAY, WAS SPENT BIDDING HIS TIME WITH VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF CHINESE CULTURE.

JENNINGS - PEKING:

IN THE EVENING, MR. VANCE WAS ADVISED BY HIS CHINA EXPERTS THAT THERE WERE MESSAGES IN THE BRILLIANT PERFORMANCE BY CHINESE JUGGLERS, ACROBATS AND MAGICIANS. THE WOMEN, THEY BELIEVED, WERE ALLOWED MORE SIGNS OF FEMININITY THAN DURING THE JUST-ENDED CULTURAL REVOLUTION. THERE WAS EVEN A DRESS OR TWO. CERTAINLY, THERE WAS A MINIMUM OF REVOLUTIONARY FLAGS, AND AN ALMOST COMPLETE ABSENCE OF POLITICAL RHETORIC. CHINA WATCHERS BELIEVED THIS IS INTENDED TO INDICATE THAT THE SOCIETY WILL LOOSEN UP AND BE LESS DOGMATIC. CHINESE IN THE AUDIENCE ACTUALLY GASPED AT ONE POINT TO SEE A CHINESE MAGICIAN DRESSED IN THE ANCIENT COSTUME OF A MANDARIN. DURING THE REGIME JUST OUSTED HERE, A MANDARIN'S COSTUME WOULD BE WORN ONLY BY VILLAINS, USUALLY, POLITICAL ONES.

THIS AFTERNOON, PEKING TIME, A MORE SUBSTANTIAL SESSION FOR MR. VANCE, HIS FIRST WITH A LEADING MEMBER OF THE CHINESE POLITBORO, THE VICE PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING. THEY AGREED THAT THEIR TWO AND A HALF HOUR DISCUSSION HAD BEEN USEFUL. MR. VANCE FOUND THEM FRANK. TONIGHT, DURING THE TOASTS AT THE BANQUETS, MR. TENG SAID THE CHINESE VIEW WAS THAT CHINA AND AMERICA SHOULD MOVE FORWARD TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS.

THERE IS NO WAY TO KNOW JUST YET WHY MR. TENG HAS SEEN MR. VANCE. THE CHINESE MAY BE PLEASED BY AMERICAN PROPOSALS FOR NORMALIZING RELATIONS. CONVERSELY MR. TENG, ONE OF CHINA'S MORE BLUNT, OUTSPOKEN LEADERS, MAY BE TELLING MR. VANCE THAT CONTINUING US RECOGNITION OF TAIWAN IS STILL COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE IN CHINA.

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CBS

ANCHORMAN: SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE, CONTINUING HIS PEKING TALKS, MET TODAY WITH DEPUTY PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING ABOUT NORMALIZING CHINESE-AMERICAN RELATIONS. VANCE CALLED THE TALKS USEFUL AND HELPFUL. A US SPOKESMAN SAID THEY WERE BETTER THAN EXPECTED.

KALB: FOR THE FIRST TIME, CHINA'S POWERFUL VICE PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING STEPPED INTO THE NEGOTIATIONS. HE DID MOST OF THE TALKING DURING A TWO-AND-A-HALF-HOUR SESSION WITH SECRETARY VANCE. AND FOR THE FIRST TIME, TOO, THE TALKS WERE DOMINATED BY THE CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE OF TAIWAN. THE CHINESE SAY THAT THE US MUST BREAK RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN AS THE PRICE FOR RELATIONS WITH PEKING. TONIGHT VANCE WAS TENG'S GUEST AT A BANQUET AT THE CENTURIES-OLD SUMMER PALACE. THE MOOD WAS RELAXED. IT WAS AN EVENING OF ATMOSPHERICS AND CHOP STICKS. EARLIER IN THE DAY,

VANCE MET WITH CHINA'S FOREIGN MINISTER, HUANG HUA, EACH SIDE CLEARLY PROBING TO DETERMINE WHETHER THERE IS ANY FLEXIBILITY ON THE PART OF EITHER SIDE. BUT SO FAR, NO HINT OF THAT. THE US HOPE SEEMS TO BE THAT THE CHINESE WILL RECOGNIZE THAT THE US AND CHINA HAVE PARALLEL STRATEGIC INTERESTS--THAT IS, BLOCKING ANY SOVIET EXPANSION--AND THAT TAIWAN SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO BE AN OBSTACLE TO IMPROVING SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS. DIPLOMACY TOOK A BREAK LAST NIGHT WHEN VANCE WAS TREATED TO A CULTURAL PERFORMANCE AT THE GREAT HALL OF THE PEOPLE. THE PROGRAM CONSISTED OF VARIETY ACTS, BUT IT WAS MORE THAN SIMPLE ENTERTAINMENT. THE PROGRAM WAS NON-IDEOLOGICAL, IN SHARP CONTRAST TO THE HIGHLY POLITICAL PERFORMANCES IN THE DAYS OF CHAIRMAN MAO. THOSE PROGRAMS HAD CONSISTED

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OF IDEOLOGY SET TO STRIDENT MUSIC. IN A COUNTRY WHERE SYMBOLS ARE IMPORTANT, THIS PROGRAM WAS SEEN AS SYMBOLIZING THE NEW POLICY SHIFT AWAY FROM REVOLUTIONARY ZEAL, WITH THE EMPHASIS ON PRAGMATISM. THE MEETINGS BETWEEN VANCE AND TENG COULD HAVE A CRITICAL IMPACT ON THE TRIANGULAR MANEUVERINGS BY WASHINGTON, PEKING AND MOSCOW. IF THESE MEETINGS ARE PRODUCTIVE, IT COULD GIVE A POSITIVE MOMENTUM TO RELATIONS BETWEEN CHINA AND THE US. BUT IF THERE IS NO PROGRESS, THEN PRESSURES COULD BUILD UP WITHIN THE PEKING LEADERSHIP TO CONSIDER STEPS TOWARD A RAPPROCHEMENT BETWEEN CHINA AND THE SOVIET UNION, WITH THE US AN UNEASY BYSTANDER. CHRISTOPHER

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